

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of April 23 - April 27, 2007**

1. Health Services Impact Committee: A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 1 at 7:00pm in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. The meeting is to discuss the Washington Adventist Hospital's plans to relocate. City TV will air the meeting live, and will be replayed throughout the month; specific schedules will be available at www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable after the first of the month. *(CityTV)*

2. Tax Duplication Funding Action Scheduled: The full Montgomery County Council will consider the County Executive's budget request concerning tax duplication funds on the morning of Friday, May 11. On Monday, the Management and Fiscal Policy Committee voted 2-1 to reduce the amount of revenue to be shared with municipalities that was proposed by the County Executive in his FY08 budget. If the Committee's recommendation were to be approved by the full County Council, the City of Takoma Park would receive \$273,000 less revenue than anticipated for FY08. This amount is significant--it effectively eliminates the 2 cent reduction in the tax rate that was proposed by the City Manager for FY08, or requires major cuts in proposed expenditures. Former members of the Residents' Committee on Tax and Service Duplication Issues (TASDI) are in the process of writing a letter to the County Council on the matter. The issue is complex. Persons with questions about tax duplication and the actions of the County Council may contact Suzanne Ludlow at 301-891-7229 or SuzanneL@takomagov.org. *(Community & Government Liaison)*

3. New Elevator Operational!: The new elevator at the front of the Takoma Park Community Center has been approved by inspectors and is now operational. Persons may park in the building's front parking lot and take the elevator to the Community Center level or the City Administration offices on the third floor. The elevator is very nice and we are happy that persons who have difficulty with stairs, or come with strollers or packages, now have much easier access to all parts of the Community Center. *(Community & Government Liaison)*

4. Street Restoration (Ward 2): Elm Avenue from Ethan Allen Avenue to Devonshire Road was resurfaced on Wednesday, April 25. Final sign installation and roadway marking is scheduled for the week of April 30. *(Public Works)*

5. Officers in Meetings: On April 23, Chief Ricucci and Capt. Coursey attended a meeting with all of the Prince George's County Municipal Chiefs, Prince George's County Police Deputy Chief Hylton, and Hyattsville District Commander, Major Davis. The Chiefs discussed mutual crime issues affecting all of the represented jurisdictions. On April 24, the Chief hosted a meeting with the Directors of Security from The Adventist Health System, Washington Adventist Hospital, Montgomery College and Columbia Union College. Capt. Coursey, Lt. Collington and Lt. Cipperly were also in attendance. The Chief, his staff and directors discussed preliminary strategic plans for emergency operations and potential catastrophic events. On April 25, the Chief attended the Public Safety Citizens Advisory Council monthly meeting. On April 26, the Chief met with Erwin Mack of the Crossroads Development Authority to discuss mutual issues concerning the Takoma Langley Crossroads. *(Police)*

6. Officers in Training: From April 23 to 25, Ms. Diana Dean attended the Reed Technique of Interview and Interrogation School, sponsored by the Prince George's

County Sheriff's Office. On April 26, Lt. Collington, D/Cpl. John and PFC Conrad attended LInX (Law Enforcement Information Exchange) users training at the Montgomery County Public Service Training Academy. *(Police)*

7. **CSAFE:** On April 24, in partnership with the City of Takoma Park Department of Housing and Community Development, the Maryland International Corridor Community Development Corporation and the Prince George's County Police Department, CSAFE held their first Business Watch Meeting in the Takoma-Langley Crossroads business community. The goals of the business watch are to improve communication between the businesses and the police and also provide a networking opportunity for the businesses. Meetings will be held quarterly. Sgt. Rich Poole attended the meeting. *(Police)*

8. **Police Business:**

- On April 25, oral interviews were conducted for the selection process of the Communications/Dispatch Supervisor.
- On April 20, the Police Honor Guard Unit represented the Police Department and City by sending a National Color Team to the funeral of District Of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department Officer William Pitt who was killed in the line of duty. On April 21, the Honor Guard also represented the Agency at the Prince George's County Police Open House at the Hyattsville District Station.
- On April 28, Chief Ricucci, Capt. Coursey, Lt. Collington, the Police Honor Guard and a contingent of officers and civilian members will represent the Police Department and the City at the funeral of Montgomery County Police 4th District Officer Hoffman who was killed in the line of duty on April 26. *(Police)*

9. **Traffic Enforcement (Wards 3 and 6):** Officers conducted at least 73 traffic stops this week, 61 of which ended in written citations. One arrest and one impound also resulted from these stops. More than half of the stops were made on New Hampshire Avenue, Carroll Avenue, and University Boulevard. *(Police)*

10. **Bamboo Removal (Ward 3):** The Public Works staff began removing the bamboo located in the City right of way on Cockerille Avenue leading to Circle Woods. This effort is part of a City program to control invasive exotic plants on public property. *(Public Works)*

11. **After School Clinics:** The Takoma park Recreation Department's after school tennis and soccer clinics are a great success. The Outdoor Soccer Clinic currently has fifteen (15) 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders that learn fundamentals, scrimmage and have fun every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45 - 4:45pm behind Takoma Park Elementary. The Tennis Clinic takes place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 3:45 - 5:45pm at the Takoma Park Middle School tennis courts. Thirty-nine (39) young people, from 1st through 8th grades, participate in this beginner/intermediate program. After school programs, like the tennis and soccer clinics, provide elementary and middle school kids a structured activity - a positive, healthy alternative to sitting on the couch, watching TV and playing video games while eating Cheetos. *(Recreation)*

12. **Winning with Rhythm:** Singing, dancing and celebrating were on tap Friday, April 20, when the Afternoon Addition welcomed Mark Tabron with his rhythmic drumming and inspirational words "I'm a Winner." *(Recreation)*

13. **Gardening with Mike:** On Friday, April 27, Carey Antoszewski and Karla Kelly of the Recreation Department met with Mike Welsh, the City Gardner, to setup a program where children and teens can get service learning hours by maintaining the City's gardens. *(Recreation)*

14. **City Newsletter:** The May newsletter is now published and being mailed to residents' homes. It is also posted to the City website at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/news/newsletter/2007/may07.pdf> *(CityTV)*

15. **THIS SATURDAY! LEND A HAND! Main Street Takoma Spring Clean-up Day April 28 (City -Wide):** Main Street Takoma Design Committee is organizing the second annual Spring Clean-up Day for all residents to spruce up Old Takoma from Takoma Junction to 4th Street NW. Volunteers are needed to pick up trash, sweep, weed, mulch, and plant flowers! The Clean-up will take place this Saturday, April 28, 9am-12noon. Meet at Takoma Junction, the Clock Tower (Laurel Avenue), or the Triangle Park (4th Street NW). For more information or to sponsor the event, please contact designcommittee@takomamainstreet.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

16. **HCD Staff Training (City-Wide):** Housing and Community Development staffmember Ilona Blanchard completed a three day training on negotiation planning, skills, and practice. *(Housing and Community Development)*

17. **Business Watch Program (Wards 6, 2, 3):** The City of Takoma Park Department of Housing and Community Development and Police Department partnered with CSAFE, the Maryland International Corridor CDC, and Prince Georges Police Department to hold a kickoff meeting for a Business Watch program in the Crossroads and the New Hampshire Avenue Corridor. The meeting was well attended by business owners from Takoma Park and Prince George's County. A Business Watch program will strengthen the communication between business owners and the police through designated local leaders in each shopping plaza/strip to keep all businesses informed of the activity in the Crossroads and the New Hampshire Avenue Corridor. *(Housing and Community Development)*

18. **Landlord Certification Seminar (City-wide):** The monthly landlord certification seminar was held this past Thursday evening with ten landlords and property agents representing a range of rental facilities in the community, attending. According to the evaluation surveys completed by participants, they found the presentations to be informative and the materials distributed a useful resource. *(Housing and Community Development)*